

DECLASSIFIED

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Auth: DDA MEMO 17/1763 25X1 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 9 August 1949

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Military and Economic Information on Albania

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DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 25X1 1. In the current reorganization of the Albanian Army, a group of 127 Soviet officers and non-commissioned officers in Albania supervise military training and give instruction in the proper use of arms, ammunition and other Soviet military equipment. In addition, 20 Soviet military commissars indoctrinate troops according to the present Soviet line, which appears to be a "hate campaign" against Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria; Bulgaria is allegedly included because the traditional enmity which exists between Albanians and Bulgars can be exploited in intensifying hostility against non-Soviet foreigners.
- 25X1 2. The Soviets are reported to be encountering considerable resistance from the Albanian people, particularly in the interior, where many foreign officers have been placed in command of the Albanian Army units responsible for maintaining order. These have been chosen largely from among former members of international units.
- 25X1 In the majority of cases the Soviets have secured Albanian citizenship for these officers.
3. Platforms for the launching of guided missiles of the V-2 type are reported to have been built at Laz (sic)*, near the coast west of Elbasan. Another launching site is said to have been constructed at Iballije, northeast of Shkoder.
4. New coastal defense guns of Soviet and Czechoslovak origin have been installed along the Albanian coast-line, which is already partially protected by fields of magnetic mines and anti-aircraft batteries.**
5. Plans are said to be under way for the installation of a large radar station in the area of Gjinokaster.***
6. The Albanian police force is reportedly being reorganized under the direction of four former German officers (unidentified), who had been taken prisoner at Stalingrad, and later served with distinction in the Red Army.****
- 25X1 7. The Soviets are said to virtually monopolize Albanian oil, wood, hide and tobacco; all is shipped directly to the USSR, often in [redacted]. [redacted] chromium ore is said to be requisitioned by the Soviets and dispatched to Czechoslovakia.*****

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1961 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the

archivist of the United States

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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The Albanian Government has recently authorized the construction of a textile factory by the Czechoslovak textile industry, to be located on the outskirts of Tirana.***** Factory machinery is German GEM (sic), originally seized by the Soviets; several Czech technicians in charge of the project are reportedly already in Tirana.


Comment: This might possibly be Llazat or Lesh

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